

# Ripley County Democrat.

VOLUME XVII.

DONIPHAN, MISSOURI, FRIDAY, MARCH 5, 1915.

NUMBER 18.

## 'ROUNDABOUT THE STATE.

Gleaned from Exchanges--Made by the Shears, the Pencil and the Paste Pot--Some Original, Some Credited, and Some Stolen, but Nearly All Interesting Reading.

Nearly one million dollars is what the Missouri Pacific paid out at Sedalia during 1914.

A sociable wildcat visits La Grange every now and then and adds its voice to the night noises of the vicinity.

McDonald county genius has again asserted itself. A poultry fancier there has invented a blind bridle for chickens.

According to J. T. Mitchell, state bank commissioner, there were 130 new banks organized in Missouri during the year 1914.

A Mayview young woman evidences fine faith in humanity when she advertises for the return of a \$4 bill lost in the street.

In number of horses, Missouri with 1,095,000 head, ranks fifth among the states. With 329,000 mules, we are second only to Texas.

The Gallatin Democrat tells of its "cub" reporter turning in a wedding notice with the principals "united in holy matrimony," by the "contracting minister."

The new Columbia Leader is out with the earliest fish story. It says that a man named Hayes, while cutting ice near Hammock's mill the other day caught a fifty-pound cat fish with a pair of ice tongs.

Here is a woman among women. She recently went into the office of the municipal loan office at Kansas City to pawn her watch for money with which to pay the tax on her pet dog.

Friends of "Shotty" Headley of Sarcoie are listing him among the heroes. Headley is 6 feet 4 inches tall and by stretching a little he was able to rescue from a downtown well a dog that had fallen in.

The Newburg Record thinks the man who wrote a formula for success by keeping "your head cool, your feet warm and your mind busy," should have added something about keeping your mouth shut.

Maryville enjoyed a box supper and dance the other night, given by the All-Sew club, a popular local organization in which it is understood only women and tailors are eligible for active membership.

"May God bless you" was the only message enclosed with a silver dime received recently by a Melt woman who has not been able to learn if the donor is some conscious stricken person or merely a rich relative.

In Maries county service was inaugurated last week on a new mail route with Pay Down as a terminus; and with Arthur Shanks as carrier the delivery ought to be regular and reliable, even if not always rapid.

"Hold your horses," is the word, that is passed about in Missouri just now. The advice is literal and issues from many who are familiar with the European markets where many American horses are being shipped.

A Louisiana man has a playful cow that plays hide-and-seek with her owner by climbing a frail stairway and concealing herself in the barn loft. Tiring of her facetious ways, the owner announced that he intends selling her to a circus.

Capt. A. J. Staisy, a Confederate war veteran, died at Sedalia a few days ago at the age of 75 years. Of the 105 men in his company in the war only he and one other were not killed or wounded.

The Sturgeon Leader tells of a man near that town who recently butchered a hog that weighed 735 pounds dressed. From this hog he made 30 gallons of lard. The animal was two years old and a Duroc Jersey.

Wesley Robinson, a negro, was hanged in Kansas City early Monday morning for killing his wife and stepdaughter. His crime was most revolting, he having burned the body of his wife in the cook stove after chopping the body to pieces.

Quaint indeed is the humor and philanthropy of a Higginsville plumber who advertises "Free baths," the only condition being that the bath be taken in the curtainless show window where an enameled bathtub is on display.

Mr. and Mrs. Elliott Spalding of St. Joseph have contributed 100 volumes from their own library to the Brookfield chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, who are making a laudable effort to establish a public library in Brookfield.

The last forty acres of government land in Hickory county subject to entry was filed on one day last week by an Iowa farmer, who made a cash entry at the Springfield land office. There are now only a few hundred acres in the entire state subject to entry.

The Carthage Press is inclined to believe that the proposed Missouri Anti-Profanity Law might work fairly well in the villages to which it is intended to apply, inasmuch as they haven't many houses in which there is any modern plumbing to "freeze up and bust."

There are 81 Baptists in the Missouri House of Representatives, 28 Methodists, 18 Christians, 6 Catholics, 4 Episcopalians, 3 German Evangelical, and one each, Mennonite, Christian Scientist, Spiritualist, Seventh Day Adventist, Jew, Congregationalist and Lutheran.

When a syndicate writer asked: "What would you do if every time you put your hand in your pocket you found a \$10 gold piece?" the Waynesville Democrat quotes a fellow editor who wasn't sure what he'd do, but knew he'd be convinced that he had on another man's trousers.

By a vote of 1,073 for 104 votes against, Chillicothe, Monday decided to issue \$135,000 in bonds for the purchase and improvement of the private owned water plant there. The plant will be taken over at once and work begun on the extension of mains and in building a settling basin.

A tablet to the memory of the pioneers of Missouri was unveiled at the Jefferson Memorial in Forest Park, St. Louis, Tuesday, under the auspices of the Missouri Society of the Daughters of 1812. The ceremonies were combined with a celebration of one hundred years of peace between Great Britain and the United States.

## The Boys' And Girls' Clubs Of Missouri.

BY R. H. EMBERSON.  
The College of Agriculture has been organizing and promoting Boys' and Girls' Clubs since March 1914. At first it began with only two lines of work, which were corn clubs for boys and tomato clubs for girls. During the spring and summer ninety-six clubs were organized with a membership of 1197.

With the opening of the fall term of school, three other lines of work were projected; these were stock judging clubs, sewing clubs and poultry clubs. The total number of clubs organized from March to January were 339 with a membership of 3071.

In order to encourage the work the State Corn Growers' Association offered premiums to the corn clubs and several business firms offered premiums to the tomato clubs. The firms encouraging this work were Mermod Jacob & Co., St. Louis, the State Bankers' Association, The St. Louis Seed Co., The Simmons Hardware Co., and the Shapleigh Hardware Co.

The sweepstake prize, a silver cup, was awarded Mary Turnbull, Pittsville, Mo. The prize for the best jar of tomatoes grown and canned by a member of a club, was awarded to Nellie Shelton, Holden, Mo. This was also a silver cup. A set of Diamond Edge knives and forks was awarded Golda Moberly, Barnard, Mo. A camera was awarded to Sophia Mellies, Owensville, Mo. And a set of ladies pruning shears to Delta Deal, Holden, Mo.

In order to encourage local interest in this new educational movement, several merchants of Columbia offered prizes, some to members of corn clubs and others to members of tomato clubs. About thirty five boys and girls began this work but only one came up to all the requirements of the organization. These requirements were that the corn or tomatoes must be grown by the members, written reports must be made of the work, the products—either corn or tomatoes, must be exhibited and a story of two hundred words telling briefly about the activity carried on must be presented at the close.

The one Columbia member who fulfilled all the requirements was Mabel Alexander, 124 McBaine Avenue. As a reward for her faithfulness she was presented with a pair of shoes by the C. B. Miller Shoe Company.

Of course every community has its absent minded folks who are made the topic of many yarns but right at the head of the list must come the members of the Appleton City fire department. The Journal tells the story on the department; "Aside from the excitement there was little to record about the fire except that the men in their hurry to get to the scene forgot to take the fire engine."

One of the things that annually brings back to the people of Montgomery City the memories of Abraham Lincoln is an ax with which he used to split rails and which now belongs to Mrs. Sylvia Vandaver. She puts it on exhibit in some store window every February 12. It never fails to attract much attention. It was given her by her uncle, William Smith, who was a personal acquaintance of Lincoln in Illinois.

If you are in need of money see Geo. D. Sloan for terms and time before borrowing. Office in court house with probate judge.

## Treatment of Seed Oats For Smut.

BY C. B. HUTCHISON.  
Loose smut of oats is a fungous disease of the oat plant which causes serious losses to this crop. This disease is very noticeable after the plants being almost completely replaced by a mass of fine, black, dusty spores. Oat smut may be prevented by soaking or sprinkling the seed thoroughly with some solution which will kill the spores without injuring the seed. The most common solution used is formalin and the treatment is made as follows:

Mix one pint of commercial formalin with 40 or 50 gallons of water in barrels or other convenient vessels. Immerse the oats in this solution, stirring well so that all will be thoroughly soaked. Pour off the solution, dump the oats out and stir occasionally until dry. Another method employed is to sprinkle the oats with the solution until they are well soaked, and then heap them up in a pile and cover with blankets or sacks. Leave them in this pile for five or six hours, or even over night, and then spread out to dry. Stir frequently until thoroughly dried, after which they may be sacked and set aside until seeding time. Formalin may be obtained from any drug store.

Machines for treating oats and wheat for smut are on the market. In these the grain is passed through a tank containing the formalin solution and then dumped out on the floor to dry. Such machines are not expensive and are very satisfactory.

Formalin is poisonous, but in this weak solution it will not injure the hands and is perfectly safe to handle. Since the formalin volatilizes rapidly, oats thus treated that are not needed for seeding may, after thorough drying and airing, be safely fed to stock.

## A Timely Question.

The "food question" is an ever present problem. How the farmer of today and tomorrow is going to best cash in the product of his toil and skill raises a timely issue.

- (1) Will the producer be able to sell direct to consumer at a distance?
- (2) Will the farmer make it best through co-operative marketing associations?
- (3) Will the farmer finally find the best and "only way" is to sell to his local merchant?
- (4) Will not the specialty farmer more and more ship direct to produce commission merchants, who in turn sell in bulk to retailers?
- (5) If there was a law licensing and bonding produce commission merchants would it not be a vital aid to farmers and country merchants by making sure of speedy and prompt cash returns on shipments on commission?

New York and other states have helped to partly solve the marketing problem by licensing produce commission merchants—an aid to the square commission man.

A concise law licensing and bonding produce commission merchants would probably result in a more general shipping of produce to the city by farmers and country merchants. If so, it would do much to aid in solving the marketing problem, which either is or is soon to be a mighty lively issue with the farmers of Missouri.

## State Board of Agriculture Notes.

It is very generally agreed that the conditions up to this time all point favorably toward a mighty fine start in the direction of first rate crops this year. Expert authorities pretty generally agree that the soil conditions as yet favor beginnings of bumper crop planting. The dry seasons and the present winter strengthen the hope that this may be a banner corn year, as sure as we get the growing sort of early season.

Missouri is today one of the greatest of states—and yet its good name and fond fame limp along behind other states with less varied possibilities and narrower resources. Kansas, Colorado, Iowa, Indiana and other states have an agricultural statistical law that is worth millions to the farming interests of those states annually. Missouri has the goods—but we have no law for gathering farm facts.

The farmers of Missouri are entitled to "Pure Seed and Feed"—a reasonable and practical law for each.

Don't we need a law protecting the farmer in buying agricultural seeds—a practical regulation to stop the dumping of seeds here that will not sell in Kansas, Iowa and other states?

Millions of dollars have been spent on commercial mixed feeds in Missouri during the past two years.

The farmers and stockmen demand reasonable inspection or label laws for seeds and feeds.

Iowa has started to formulate plans for a "Better Butter Brand," a print to be used on all Iowa-made butter. A good idea, isn't it? Why can't Missouri trot out her artists and agree on a state butter print? Maybe the bears on our state seal would do. Since dairymen can not agree on what type of dairy cow should be used on a butter print, the latest suggestion is a goat as a Better Butter Booster!

Meeting the desire of some of our readers as to the numbers of legislative bills in the interest of the farmers of Missouri, the following may be mentioned, among other things:—

- A pure seed bill; in the Senate by Buford, in the House by Gordon.
- The Nebraska law for county aid to farmers' institutes and short courses; House bill number 750, Senate 419.
- Agricultural statistical law; House 804, Senate 444.
- Bill to increase indemnity allowed on condemned live stock under quarantine law; House 787, Senate 411.

Some years ago the voters of Missouri in a moment of forgetfulness to their ideals elected a number of Republican state officials, and among them was one Waltour M. Robinson, who was elevated to the Supreme bench, served his term, and then apparently returned to oblivion whence he had been accidentally uplifted. But Waltour returned to the limelight the other day when a waitress in Joplin had him arrested for insulting her. He was arraigned in justice's court, and the humiliated spectacle was presented Missourians of an ex-Supreme judge defending himself from this kind of a charge by the trivial excuse that he had just been "joking." The justice thought this sort of joking was worth a fine and accordingly imposed it.

## FEWER FATALITIES

Only 68 of the 21,747 Injured in Missouri Workshops Die of Their Wounds.

## REPORTS FROM 2,710 PLANTS

Bureau of Labor Statistics Covers Fiscal Year 1913-14 in Bulletin—Mines Show Decrease.

Information gathered by the bureau of labor statistics, covering the fiscal year 1913-14, shows 21,747 accidents occurred to the employees of 2,710 manufacturing establishments, public service companies and workshops having ten or more wage earners. Of those injured only sixty-eight, according to the returns, were killed outright or died as the result of the accidents. Those permanently disabled, wholly or partly, numbered only fifty-three, leaving 21,625 of the hurt, male and female, who fully recovered.

The 2,710 establishments included in the investigation employed 134,057 male and 35,261 female workers, a total of 169,318. Approximately 411 employers reported that they carried liability insurance and 659 establishments either paid wages to their injured while they were convalescing or a casualty company which carried their "protection" did.

Employers were asked if they had "pensions for length of service, for efficiency or faithfulness, or any other 'benevolent' enterprise." Only nineteen returns were in the affirmative. Some manufacturers reported bonuses at the end of each year to employees for efficient and faithful service, the amount, in several cases, being 1 per cent of the yearly earnings.

Information covering accidents in coal mines showed a decrease of half of the fatalities of the preceding year, and the death rate per 1,000 was reduced to a fraction of less than 1, as compared with 2.05 in the previous year. Of the ten fatalities, eight were due to falls of roof. The quantity of coal mined for each life lost was 431,812 tons, against 216,992 tons in the previous year.

Mr. Meek of Brunswick was far from mild in his refusal when a "regular elicker" came to town and tried to get him to endorse a check for \$1,300. Mr. Meek would not endorse the check but put it through for collection in the regular way and was not greatly surprised when it came back marked "No funds."

When a Moberly matron found in a package of California raisins a live lizard, which had been packed with the fruit on the Pacific Slope, she bundled up the raisins and the half starved saurian and returning the purchase to the grocer, demanded her money back. Admitting that it was questionable advertising, the merchant put the lizard on display in a show window.

Charles Raynor, 58 years old, probably owes his life to the bumping of an ambulance as it was speeding to the city hospital. He was eating at a St. Louis restaurant when he choked on a piece of meat. On the way to the hospital the ambulance lurched over an obstruction and the jar relieved Raynor as he was well when he reached the hospital. So he went home.

A quack doctor was doing a lively business in Leeton when arrested the other day. He made extravagant promises to cure, took \$10, or \$5, or anything he could get, gave the sufferer a little book on health and moved to the next victim. He claimed when arrested he was not practicing medicine but simply selling the book, and paid a fine and costs of \$16.65 for disturbing the peace, taking the next train out.

If you want to borrow money on long time and easy payments see Geo. D. Sloan, Doniphan, Mo.